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No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/05/02 : LOC-HAK-186-5-61-3

RNR17

KISSINGER 2 WASHINGTON:

THESE ARE HEADY DAYS FOR KISSINGER, THE HARVARD SCHOLAR WHOSE 20-HOUR WORKDAYS, PATIENCE AND CHARM HAVE PROPELLED HIM INTO THE PAGES OF FUTURE HISTORY BOOKS, WHICH MAY RANK HIM WITH METTERNICH, TALLEYRAND AND OTHER MASTERS OF DIPLOMACY.

KISSINGERS VICTORIES ALSO REPRESENT A RETURN, PERHAPS TEMPORARY, FOR PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMACY AFTER YEARS OF SUMMITRY.

PRESIDENT NIXON HAS ALWAYS PRIDED HIMSELF ON HIS FOREIGN AFFAIRS EXPERTISE, BUT HE IS NOW SO BESET BY DOMESTIC PROBLEMS -- PARTICULARLY THE WATERGATE BUGGING SCANDAL -- THAT HE WILL PROBABLY BE COMPELLED TO LEAVE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS IN KISSINGERS HANDS.

THOSE HANDS ARE PROFESSIONAL AND SURE. HIS STYLE OF WORK WAS EVIDENT DURING THE FIRST DAYS OF THE MIDDLE EAST FIGHTING. THE NEGOTIATIONS, HE SAID, WERE DELICATE AND COULD NOT BE DESCRIBED PUBLICLY. THERE WERE NO LEAKS TO THE PRESS FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT, WHICH HAD ALWAYS BEEN CONSIDERED A SIEVE.

HE REFUSED TO ACCUSE THE RUSSIANS OF BAD FAITH OR IRRESPONSIBILITY, ALTHOUGH THE UNITED STATES WAS DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER THEIR DELIVERIES OF ARMS TO THE WARPING ARAB NATIONS AND THEIR EXHORTATIONS TO NON-COMBATANT ARAB STATES TO JOIN IN THE FIGHTING.

INSTEAD, HE KEPT IN DAILY CONTACT WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR ANATOLY DOBRYNIN, SEEKING SOME KIND OF COMPROMISE.

IN KISSINGERS DEALINGS WITH THE RUSSIANS LIES ONE OF HIS GREATEST SUCCESSES. HE HAD LITTLE DIFFICULTY CONVINCING THE U.S. SENATE THAT, ALTHOUGH A JEW, HE COULD CONDUCT A FOREIGN POLICY IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES -- WITHOUT FAVORITISM FOR ISRAEL OR HOSTILITY TOWARDS THE ARABS.

MORE JCK/RBC 0223

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RNR18

KISSINGER 3 WASHINGTON:

THAT HE HAS MANAGED TO PERSUADE THE SOVIET LEADERS OF HIS FAIRNESS IS ESPECIALLY REMARKABLE, AND REPRESENTS PROOF THAT HIS BACKGROUND WILL BE NO HANDICAP.

BUT FOR ALL HIS TRIUMPHS, IT MUST RANKLE THAT THE ADMINISTRATION HE SERVES IS IN DEEP TROUBLE -- EVEN FACING CATASTROPHE -- AT HOME.

AMERICANS ARE LOOKING WITH STEADILY DIMINISHING DISBELIEF AT THE PROSPECT OF IMPEACHING PRESIDENT NIXON OVER WATERGATE. VICE PRESIDENT SPIRO AGNEW HAS BEEN FORCED TO RESIGN.

IT HAS BECOME ALMOST A BY-WORD IN WASHINGTON THAT WHENEVER PRESIDENT NIXON IS IN DOMESTIC TROUBLE HE PULLS OFF A SPECTACULAR FOREIGN POLICY COUP -- A VISIT TO CHINA OR MOSCOW, AN END TO THE VIETNAM WAR -- THAT DISTRACTS ATTENTION FROM HIS PROBLEMS AT HOME.

KISSINGERS VISIT TO MOSCOW AND THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE RESOLUTION PUSHED TALK OF IMPEACHING THE PRESIDENT TO THE SIDE OF AMERICAN FRONT PAGES YESTERDAY MORNING.

NOW AMERICANS ARE ASKING: WHAT CAN HE DO NEXT?

REUTER JCK/RBC 0225

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